CITY OF SALISBURY

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1955

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS,

I have the honour to submit to you my Annual Report on the state of the Public Health and details of Public Health Work during the year 1955. The Report of your Senior Public Health Inspector is also incorporated.

I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation of the staff of the Public Health Department and of my colleagues in other Departments of the Council.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

E.M. WRIGHT

Medical Officer of Health

10th September, 1956

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GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres	3,640
Number of inhabited houses and flats at end of 1955 ..	9,409
Registrar General's estimated mid year Home Population for 1955	34,150
Rateable Value	£303,825
The sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,243

		Total	Male	Female
BIRTHS.	Live - Legitimate	486	236	250
	Illegitimate	22	8	14
	All births	508	244	264

Total Birth Rate per 1,000 population	14.87
Area comparability factor	0.97
Adjusted Birth Rate	14.42

Birth Rates per 1,000 population (not adjusted):-

1954	16.44
1953	14.75
1952	15.21
1951	16.42
1950	15.13
Average 1950 - 1954	15.59

		Total	Male	Female
BIRTHS.	Still - Legitimate	9	3	6
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
	All births	9	3	6

Total Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ..	0.26

	Total	Male	Female
DEATHS.	531	269	262

Total Death Rate per 1,000 population	15.55
Area comparability factor	0.83
Adjusted Death Rate	12.91

Death Rates per 1,000 population (not adjusted):-

1954	13.39
1953	15.22
1952	10.71
1951	11.82
1950	11.05
Average 1950 - 1954	12.44
Average Death Rate for England and Wales for 1955 (provisional)	11.7

Infantile Death Rate - per 1,000 live births:-

Death Rate of all Infants under one year of age	25.59
Total Deaths (legitimate and illegitimate)	13
Deaths of Legitimate Infants	12
Deaths of Illegitimate Infants	1

Infantile Death Rate:-

1954	17.99
1953	26.37
1952	17.51
1951	16.97
1950	34.68
Average 1950 - 1954	22.70

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE CITY OF SALISBURY, 1955. (Corrected)

Causes of Death	Males	Females
All Causes	269	262
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcol Infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	1	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	11	12
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	5
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	3	1
16. Diabetes	-	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	27	45

Causes of Death (contd)	Males	Females
18. Coronary disease, angina	46	25
19. Hypertension with heart disease	6	2
20. Other hear disease	55	65
21. Other circulatory disease	10	12
22. Influenza	-	1
23. Pneumonia	15	9
24. Bronchitis	8	4
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	5	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	4	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	34
33. Motor vehicle accidents	4	1
34. All other accidents	4	8
35. Suicide	5	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-

The above figures only refer to deaths of residents in Salisbury and to those who died outside Salisbury but whose named residence is in the City. There were 635 deaths registered as occurring in Salisbury; 426 of these deaths occurred in institutions. There were 55 inward transfer deaths (i.e. those of residents of Salisbury who died outside the area), and 159 outward transfer deaths (i.e. those of non-residents who died in the City).

Deaths in institutions in the City were as follows:-

	Residents	Non-Residents
Salisbury Infirmary	68	152
Harnwood Hospital	1	-
Newbridge Hospital	90	-
Meyrick Close	27	-
The Old Manor	61	-
Nursing Homes	27	-
	274	152

INQUESTS

During the year 1955, 29 inquests were held on deaths which occurred in the City.

Residents	Non-Residents	
3	9	deaths were due to road accidents.
1	1	deaths were due to accidental falls.
-	1	death was due to burns.
4	1	deaths were due to suicide.
1	-	death was due to drowning.
-	1	death was due to too large dose of insulin - misadventure.
-	3	deaths were due to aeroplane crashes.
2	-	deaths were due to accidental carbon monoxide poisoning.
-	1	death was due to pneumonia following an accidental fall.
-	1	death was due to alcoholic poisoning - self inflicted.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE CITY

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1955

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. E.M. Wright, T.D., M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H.

DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Dr. H. Margaret Hammond, M.B., Ch.B. *

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD INSPECTOR

Mr. S. Appleyard, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.I.

DEPUTY SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTOR

Mr. L. Weeks, C.S.I.B.

* Dr. Hammond acts only in the absence of the Medical Officer of Health, under Section 115, Local Government Act, 1933.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD INSPECTORS

Mr.A.H. Kay, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.H.

Mr. H. H. Seddon, C.S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Mr. P. Bradwell, C.S.I.B. (appointed 1st April, 1955)

RODENT OPERATIVE

Mr. T. E. Hazel

CLERICAL STAFF

Mrs. J. Weeks

Miss J. Grant

The following Health Visitors employed by the Wiltshire County Council for duty in the City, are provided with office accommodation and clerical assistance in the Public Health Department:-

Miss P.E. Morris, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.Cert.

Miss M.H. Norman, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

Miss E.C.N. Cross, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.F.N., H.V.Cert.

Mrs. A.H. Soilleux, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.Cert.

The Public Health Committee deals with all public health matters.

The following School Nurses are also employed by the Wiltshire County Council for duties in the Schools in the City; they carry out their work from the Minor Ailments Clinic, Salisbury General Infirmary:-

Mrs. B.A. Brown, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Mrs. N.M. Dalzell, S.R.N., S.C.M.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Public Health Laboratory, Salisbury General Infirmary, where examinations of specimens connected with infectious disease and examinations of water supplies, milk, ice-cream, food, etc. are regularly carried out.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Immunisation of children against diphtheria is carried out under arrangements made by the Wiltshire County Council, as Local Health Authority under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Immunisation is carried out at maternity and child welfare clinics, at school clinics and at primary and secondary schools, by Medical Officers of the County Council, and, in addition, general medical practitioners in the City immunise a large number of children under arrangements made privately with their parents.

The following are the statistics for 1955:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5 - 9		10 - 14		Total under 15
Primary immunisations completed during 1955	184	161				65				410
Reinf. injections administered during 1955	-	22				567				589
Total immunised child population at 31st Dec.1955	17	302	349	333	361	409 *	1851 †	428 *	1165 †	5215

Immunisation against Whooping Cough

A large number of children in the City are immunised against whooping cough by their family doctors, under arrangements made privately by their parents, but no statistics are available for this work. During 1955, the Wiltshire County Council, as Local Health Authority, prepared a scheme for submission to the Minister for the immunisation of children against whooping

* Immunised before 1-1-51

† Immunised since 1-1-51

cough, which was due to come into operation on the 1st January, 1956.

Vaccination against Smallpox

Vaccination against smallpox is undertaken by general medical practitioners in the City under arrangements made privately.

The following are the statistics for 1955:-

Age Group	Under 1	1	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 or over
Vaccinations	223	8	15	19	26
Re-vaccinations	-	-	14	50	108

Vaccination with B.C.G.

A certain number of children who have been exposed to a risk of infection with tuberculosis receive B.C.G. vaccination, under arrangements made by the Wiltshire County Council, at the Chest Clinic, Salisbury General Infirmary. The number of children living in Salisbury who received this treatment during 1955 was 35.

In addition, the County Council, as Local Health Authority, put into force during 1955 a scheme under which children nearing school leaving age should, where advisable, and subject to their parents' consent, be vaccinated against tuberculosis with B.C.G. at schools and school clinics.

Before children are vaccinated, a simple skin test, called the Heaf test, is carried out; this shows whether or not a child will benefit by vaccination. The Heaf test is repeated six to eight weeks after vaccination in order to ascertain whether it has "taken"; if not, the vaccination is repeated, and a further Heaf test carried out after the appropriate interval.

The following are the figures for this work in the City during 1955:-

Number of school leavers who were Heaf tested to ascertain whether they needed vaccination with B.C.G. 239

Number of such children who actually received B.C.G. .. 137

In my opinion, the introduction of this scheme must be considered as a marked advance in the campaign against tuberculosis in the City, as adolescents are particularly prone to develop the disease. The prospects

for the prevention of tuberculosis are today far brighter than appeared likely to be the case a few years ago, and the City Council, as a Local Housing Authority is necessarily interested in any anti-tuberculosis campaign, in view of the very large sums which they spend annually on the re-housing of tuberculous persons and their families. It would probably be correct to say that the City Council now spend far more, through their housing policy, than either the County Council, as Local Health Authority or the Salisbury Group Hospital Management Committee, on anti-tuberculosis work, taking this phrase in its broadest meaning.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Homes are visited by the Medical Officer of Health or the Public Health Inspectors when necessary upon receipt of notification of infectious disease and enquiries made regarding contacts and the possible source of infection.

Bedding is removed for steam disinfection when necessary and disinfectant supplied to householders where infectious disease occurs, with instructions given for its use.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) during 1955

Notified Cases	All ages	Under 1 Year	1-5	6-15	16-25	26-45	46-65	66+	Age Unknown	Treated in Hospital
Scarlet fever	21	-	9	9	-	-	-	-	3	1
Whooping Cough	33	4	25	4	-	-	-	-	-	2
Measles	884	26	583	251	6	9	1	-	8	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	-	-	-	2	3	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	13	-	2	4	-	2	2	1	2	1
Suspected Food Poisoning	5	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	5	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	-

FOOD POISONING

The following are particulars of outbreaks of food poisoning during 1955:-

(a) Total number of outbreaks 4

(b) Total number of cases 18

(c) Number of deaths 0

(d) One outbreak was probably due to meat paste showing a heavy growth of coagulase negative staphylococci, B. Proteus and mixed organisms. The causes of the other outbreaks were not discovered.

TUBERCULOSIS

Primary cases of Tuberculosis notified in the City during 1955.

Age Periods	Primary Cases			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-
2-5	-	-	-	-
6-15	-	1	1	1
16-25	3	1	-	-
26-35	4	4	-	1
36-45	5	3	1	1
46-55	2	2	-	-
56-65	2	-	1	-
66 and over	5	1	-	-
Totals	21	12	3	3

The total number of cases of respiratory tuberculosis notified during 1955 was one fewer than the corresponding figure for 1954.

The City was visited by the Bournemouth Mass Radiography Unit during the period 12th May - 3rd June, 1955.

REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

No action was taken during the year under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, or under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951. In several instances, however, advice was given regarding cases where action under these Acts might have been necessary at a later date.

WATER SUPPLIES

No restrictions were imposed during the year by reason of lack of water at source, but the plant was running very near to capacity. The supply is derived from two wells, and samples are taken for bacteriological examination before and after chlorination at both pumping stations each week, or more often if necessary. Non-faecal organisms, in small numbers, were found on a few ocasions in samples taken before chlorination, in one of the wells, but samples taken before chlorination from the other well were found to be free from evidence of pollution.

Samples taken from both wells after chlorination were found to be free from evidence of pollution.

Eighteen samples were taken by the Public Health Inspectors during the year from ten private wells supplying dairies and other industrial premises in the City. Of these, 12 showed no evidence of pollution, 5 showed a very small degree of pollution with non-faecal coliform organisms, and one showed a very small degree of pollution with both faecal and non-faecal organisms.

Number of houses and flats with piped internal water supply .. 9,358

Approximate population served with piped internal water supply 34,020

There are nine groups of houses served by one or more standpipes, and 16 houses served by standpipes. One house on the outskirts of the City has a shallow well with pumped water to a storage tank in the roof space.

SALISBURY AREA PATHOLOGICAL SERVICE

General Infirmary

Report on the Analysis of Samples of Water received on 2nd November, 1955.

Devizes Road Pumping Station

Physical Characters — Clear - no deposit

Chemical:	Parts per 100,000
Reaction — Alkaline	pH 7.2
Saline and free Ammonia	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C	0.008
Chlorides	1.8
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.0
Total Hardness	24.0
(a) Temporary	17.4
(b) Permanent	6.6
Poisonous Metals	Nil
Nitrites	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	Nil

OPINION:- Chemical examination satisfactory.

Wyndham Road Pumping Station

Chemical:	
Reaction — Alkaline	pH 7.2
Saline and free Ammonia	Nil
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27°C	0.004
Chlorides	1.9
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.0
Total Hardness	23.4
(a) Temporary	18.0
(b) Permanent	5.4
Poisonous Metals	Nil
Nitrites	Nil
Microscopical examination of the Sediment	Nil

OPINION:- Chemical examination satisfactory.

SEWAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

The greater part of the sewage from the City is dealt with at the Corporation sewage works, the effluent and storm overflow being discharged into the River Avon. These works are frequently over-loaded, the main reason for this being that they were originally constructed to deal with a much smaller volume of sewage than that which now reaches them. They can only give full treatment without deterioration in effluent quality to 2.33 times the dry weather flow. Flows between 2.33 times and 4.05 times the

dry weather flow are passed to the storm filter, and all flow in excess of the latter figure is screened and passed direct to the river.

Sewage which is not passed to the works is treated on a sewage farm at Bemerton, on the outskirts of the City. In all but the driest weather, this farm cannot easily accept the loading applied to it, and in spite of "contour ploughing" to spread the flow, short circuiting sometimes occurs. This leads to sewage running straight down the hillside to the roadside below, where it gives offence to local residents and passers-by.

In view of these facts, it is advisable that both the sewage works and the sewage farm should be replaced as soon as possible by larger modern works in a more suitable location, and it is understood that detailed plans are under discussion between the Ministry and the City Engineer.

Refuse collection is dealt with by freighter type vehicles, which deliver to controlled tips.

HOUSING

The work of the Public Health Department in connection with housing did not change materially during the year, and again included a large number of investigations regarding applications for re-housing on medical grounds, or because of over-crowding. The most important of the medical grounds for re-housing was, as in previous years, the presence of pulmonary tuberculosis in one or more members of a family, and during the year eight such families were re-housed. There has been the usual close collaboration between the Chest Physicians of the Salisbury and District Hospital Group and myself in this matter, to which further reference is made in the section of this Report dealing with B.C.G. vaccination of children against tuberculosis.

The most important feature of the work in connection with housing in 1955, however, has been the survey of unfit houses in the City for the purposes of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. This survey resulted in a scheme under which 144 unfit houses will be dealt with by the end of 1960. Such a programme of slum clearance will result in the closing or demolition of the worst houses in the City, but there will undoubtedly be a very considerable number to be dealt with subsequently. Indeed, unless some method is devised by which landlords can be allowed greater inducements to keep their property in good repair, it is very hard to set a limit to the amount of deterioration in the older houses in the City, with the consequent necessity for further housing schemes by the Council.

COURSE ON FOOD HYGIENE

A course on this subject was held for firms in the City, and for their staffs, during October and November, 1955. Sixty-three people, from

twenty-six firms, enrolled, and they included proprietors, managers, and assistants from hotels, restaurants, bakeries and butchers' and bakers' shops. In addition, I am pleased to say that representatives from four women's organisations in the City attended by invitation as observers, and showed a very keen interest in the efforts to educate the staffs of food businesses to the need for a high standard of hygiene in their work.

The first lecture of the course was very kindly given by Dr. H.W.H. Kennard, Pathologist to the Salisbury Group of Hospitals, and the second by Mr. L. Weeks, Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector. At the third session of the Course, three sound films on food hygiene were shown.

The attendances at each of the three sessions, which were held on Wednesday afternoons, were 46, 41 and 37. I should like to add that only 26 businesses, out of 205 circularised, sent representatives, and these were largely the same firms and persons who attended the course on food hygiene given in 1954. It is rather disappointing to record this when feeling so certain that these courses are a valuable contribution to the appreciation of the need for the greatest care in the handling of food. Great credit is due to many of those who attended for giving up their weekly half-holiday to attend the lectures and also to the firms who gave employees an alternative half-holiday.

BYELAWS UNDER SECTION 15 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

These byelaws, which were approved by the City Council and came into operation in 1950, are enforced by visits of the Public Health Inspectors to premises where food is prepared, stored or sold. No legal proceedings were taken during the year under these byelaws.

MEAT INSPECTION

Meat inspection at the municipal slaughterhouse continued to involve the Public Health Inspectors in very heavy duties during the year; the exact figures for this work are given in the Report of the Senior Public Health Inspector. It was possible for meat inspection to be carried out without curtailing the other work of the Public Health Department, especially as the situation was eased by the appointment of Mr. P. Bradwell on the 1st April, 1955, as a Public Health Inspector for full-time meat inspection duties.

The other Public Health Inspectors also carry out meat inspection on a rota basis, and the work, as in the previous year, has been carried out in a most conscientious manner.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1,702 inspections (compared with 1,399 last year) with 984 additional visits (including 110 preliminary housing surveys) were made for the investigation and suppression of nuisances, and inspections of the various types of premises in the City as follows:-

483	inspections	of	dwellings
259	"	"	drainage systems
133	"	"	restaurant kitchens
63	"	"	dairies
62	"	"	licensed premises
59	"	"	butchers' shops
44	"	"	bakehouses
42	"	"	caravans
36	"	"	factories
22	"	"	workplaces
20	"	"	wet fish shops
11	"	"	fried fish shops
8	"	"	ice-cream premises

230 (compared with 169) complaints were received during the year. 69 preliminary notices and 11 statutory notices were served: 56 preliminary notices and 9 statutory notices had been complied with by the end of the year.

A further 158 visits were made in respect of unsound food and 66 for infecticus disease.

The number of visits to food preparing premises has increased considerably over the previous year and details of work resulting from advice given will be found on pages 18 and 19.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

This Act places a duty on the local authority to secure the inspection of premises registered or licensed by them, and to enforce the law with a view to securing the use of clean filling materials. "Registered" premises are those which use fillings in the upholstery of new furniture, bedding, toys, baby carriages and other articles; "licensed" premises are those where rag flock is manufactured or stored for delivery to registered premises.

The Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspectors are, by virtue of their appointments, "authorised officers" under the act.

All the materials used in the upholstery trade in the City come from sources where the British Standard Specifications are complied with and a certificate issued with the materials to this effect. These products are sampled regularly at the source, thus avoiding the necessity and expense of sampling within the City.

Shops Act, 1950

The Public Health Inspectors are also Shops Act Inspectors for the purpose of investigating the hours worked by young persons, the enforcement of the early closing hours, meal times, etc. and the provisions of the Public Health Act which includes ventilation, temperature and the provision of sanitary conveniences. 58 Inspections were made of various types of shops as follows:-

Provisions	10
Shoes	6
Car sales	5
Electrical	5
Restaurants	3
Jewellers	3
Furriers	3
Tailors	2
Hairdressers	2
Drapers	2
Multiple stores	2
Hardware	1
Radio and cycles	1
Antiques	1
Baby linen	1
Butchers	1
Ladies outfitting	1
Greengrocers	1
Motor cycles and accessories	1
Photographic materials	1
Outfitters	1
Rainwear	1
Tobacconists	1
Wine merchants	1
Radio	1
Soft furnishings	1
Total number of inspections	58

Offices

During the course of shops and warehouse inspections, 11 offices found in the premises have also been inspected and no contraventions of the relevant section of the Public Health Act were found.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Work completed during the year 1955

Housing

Roofs repaired	25
Chimney stack rebuilt	1
Gutters repaired or renewed	11
External wall repaired or repointed	1
Dampness abated:-	
i. repairs to roof	1
ii. repairs to external walls	2
iii. waterproofing of internal walls	9
iv. damp proof plinth provided	1
Wall plaster repaired	7
Ceiling plaster repaired	11
Rooms redecorated	4
Ceiling redecorated	1
Windows repaired	3
Window renewed	1
Sashcords provided	1
Doors repaired	4
Doors renewed	2
Floor repaired	1
Floor renewed	1
Firegrate or range repaired	1
Firegrates or ranges renewed	2
Washing copper repaired	1
Refuse receptacles provided	2
Verminous room disinfested	1
Chimney flues repaired (obstructed)	2

Sanitary Conveniences

Separate accommodation provided	2
W.C. cisterns repaired	2
W.C. cistern renewed	1
Flush pipes repaired	2
Door renewed	1
W.C. pan cleansed	1

Drainage

Drains/sewers examined	9
Drains/sewers cleansed	9
Inspection chambers provided	5
Fresh air inlets fixed	2
Waste pipe cleared	1

Nuisances

Wasps' nests destroyed	8
Flooding of cellar abated..	1

Bakehouses

Bakehouses cleansed and redecorated..	6
Equipment benches cleansed	5
Structural repairs carried out	1
Gas water heater repaired	1
Handbasin renewed	1
Handwashing notice provided	1
Hand towels provided	3

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

Sanitary accommodation provided or rebuilt	2
Intervening ventilated space provided	3
W.C. screened	1
W.C. cleansed	1
Structures repaired	1
W.C.s labelled (Male or Female..	1

Licensed Premises

Cellar floors renewed	2
Cellar floor repaired	1
Cellars redecorated	11
Cellar walls and ceiling repaired	1
Automatic dispenser provided	1
Doors provided to cellars	2
Defective sinks renewed	2
W.C.s cleansed	2
W.C.s labelled	1
W.C.s disconnected from bars	3
Lighting to bar sinks improved	1

Shops Act, 1950

Shop heating improved	1
Shop ventilation improved	1

Food Preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, etc.

Rooms cleansed or redecorated	14
Benches, etc. cleansed	2
Structural repairs carried out	3
Glass barriers provided	2
Water heaters provided	4

Food Preparing Premises, Shops, Stalls, etc. (Contd)

Lighting improved	1
Water heating arrangements improved	1
Waste bins provided	3
Handwashing notices provided	8
Hand basins, hot and cold water, soap and towels ..	5
Sink renewed	1
Constant hot water provided for dish washing	2
Grease gullies installed	1
Floor repaired	1
W.C.s disconnected from food rooms	3
Refrigerators re-painted	1
Premises where extra drying cloths provided	1
Extractor fans provided	1

HOUSING STATISTICS

Slum Clearance

The only properties demolished during the year were those comprised in CLEARANCE AREA NO. 16 (GRIFFIN'S COURT, FISHERTON STREET). Six of the seven houses were demolished and seventeen persons have been re-housed.

Five houses (not in clearance areas) were closed - four formally and two informally - and 13 persons were re-housed by the City Council from these dwellings.

Three families were also re-housed from single houses to be included in future Clearance Areas.

Underground Rooms

One underground room used for sleeping purposes was altered to comply with the Council's Regulations regarding underground rooms.

The Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Two applications for Certificates of Disrepair under this Act were received late in 1954 and were granted in 1955, together with 7 other applications received and granted during the year. Only one application for a Revocation of the Certificate following the completion of works was received and this was granted.

INSPECTIONS OF DWELLING HOUSES

Housing Act, 1936

Unfit properties:-

Preliminary inspections	110
Detailed inspections	65
Additional visits	126
Inspections with Sub-Committee	4
Houses measured for permitted members	26
Additional visits	13

Underground Rooms:-

Inspections	7

Public Health Act, 1936

Inspections	388
Additional visits	143
Preliminary notices served	69
Complied with	56
Statutory notices served	11
Complied with	9

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954

Detailed inspections for unfitness	13
Additional visits	21
Certificates of disrepair issued	9
Certificates of disrepair revoked	1

Number of New Houses and Flats erected during the year:-

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)):-

(i) by the Local Authority	39
(ii) by other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) by other bodies or persons (including existing houses converted into flats) ..	44

(b) With state assistance under the Housing Acts:-

(1) by the Local Authority

(a) for the purpose of Part II of the Act, 1925	Nil
(b) for the purpose of Part III of the Act, 1925	Nil
(c) the number of houses and flats in course of construction under the Housing Act, 1936, on the 31st December, 1955 ..	75

Number of Houses Owned by the Local Authority:-

(1) Parts II and III of the Housing Act, 1925	Nil
(2) Other Powers	Nil
Housing Act, 1919	210
" " 1923	304
" " 1924	110
" " 1925	Nil
" " 1930	112
" " 1936	64
" " 1938	12
" " 1946	1,093
Temporary Bungalows, Housing Act, 1944	99
Total	2,004

Housing Act, 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding

Number of dwellings known to be overcrowded at the end of the year	2
Number of new cases of overcrowding discovered during the year	2
Number of inspections	25

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 83 - 85

Number of inspections in connection with verminous premises	20
Number of additional visits entailed	12
Number of new cases	8
Number of verminous rooms sprayed	34
Number of verminous rooms gassed	5

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH ARE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS

Underground Rooms See page 20.

The Market Place

Inspections of the Market Stalls are made with a view to observing the sale of unsound food and also compliance with the Meat Regulations and Food Handling Bye-laws as to proper covering of stalls, the cleanliness of fittings and equipment, and the protection of food from contamination, etc.

Offensive Trades

There is only one such trade carried on within the City, viz: a marine store. The premises are regularly inspected and are generally kept clean, tidy, and free from vermin.

Moveable Dwellings

42 inspections of the 124 caravans within the City proved conditions to be generally satisfactory.

Food Premises

There were 26 butchers' shops, 15 bakehouses, 7 fried fish shops, 6 wet fish shops, 63 restaurant kitchens (31 of these being licensed premises supplying meals or snacks) one bacon and one fish curing establishment, 2 ice cream manufacturers and 127 dealers on the register at the end of the year, showing an increase of 8 dealers.

21 ice cream samples were submitted for bacteriological examination compared with 40 last year, and all (as against 24 (60%) in 1954), satisfied the provisional recommendations of the Ministry of Health, which suggests, briefly, that over a six monthly period not less than 80% of the samples taken should fall into Grade I or II, and these are the grades quoted in the percentages above.

A total of 495 (compared with 333 in 1954) inspections of these and other food premises were made during the year, the following table showing the variety of food shops visited in the City:-

Type of Food Stores	No. of Inspections
Restaurant kitchens	133
Dairies	63
Licensed premises	62
Butchers	59
Grocers	48
Bakehouses	44
Market Food stalls	33
Wet fish	20
Fried fish	11
Greengrocers	8
Ice-cream Premises	8
Egg packing	3
Sugar confectionery	2
Manufacturing confectioners	1

At one hotel in the City the kitchen and allied rooms were extended and modernised. The Public Health Inspector was consulted and the proprietors readily accepted his advice concerning hygienic construction, food storage and washing-up methods.

The work included providing extra rooms, surfacing all floors with quarry tiles, improving lighting and ventilation of all food rooms, and providing extra sinks and a wash-hand basin with hot and cold water.

At another hotel the still-room was enlarged and the walls and ceilings were re-surfaced and redecorated. Natural and artificial lighting was increased and the ventilation improved and a wash basin with constant hot and cold water was provided. A badly ventilated and windowless staff room was abolished during the course of the work.

This firm also sought the advice of the Public Health Inspector, who was able to ensure that matters which might have been overlooked were included in the work undertaken.

Details of the amount of food examined and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption are as follows, the fresh meat being in addition to that condemned at the abattoir. All food surrendered is buried under supervision at the Corporation's tip:-

2,811	lbs. 13½ ozs. tinned meat.
2,447	lbs. 12 ozs. fresh meat.
2,147	tins, fruit, fish, milk and vegetables.
30	St. 8 lbs. fish.
364	lbs. Brussels sprouts.
224	lbs. dried milk powder.
170	lbs. 13½ ozs. cheese.
75	pork pies.
48	lbs. sweets.
42	lbs. sausages.
28	lbs. herring roes.
18	lbs. pastry.
17	lbs. tomatoes.
10	lbs. 8 ozs. peaches.
10	lbs. sultanas.
9	lbs. 8 ozs. cake mixture.
4	lbs. flour.
3	lbs. 14 ozs. soup mixture.
3	lbs. 8 ozs. butter.
3	lbs. margarine.
2	lbs. 3 ozs. chutney.
2	lbs. porridge.
2	lbs. rice.
1	lb. 12 ozs. raisins.
1	lb. 4 ozs. paste.
1	lb. jam.
1	lb. marmalade.
1	lb. suet.
15	ozs. curry powder.
12	ozs. dessicated coconut.
8	ozs. gravy salt.
8	ozs. jar Horlicks.
7¼	ozs. dressed crab.
6	ozs. jar olives.
4	ozs. jar cream.
2	ozs. jar Marmite.

The following complaints of unsound food being sold, offered for sale or deposited with a view to sale were reported to the Public Health Committee and column 4 indicates the action taken:-

Article (1)	How discovered or reported (2)	Nature of Complaint or other irregularity (3)	Action Authorised (4)
Loaf of Bread	Complaint after sale	Sale of bread contaminated with oil and dirt	Warning given that in future proceedings would be considered
Brussels sprouts	do.	Sale of rotten Brussels sprouts	do.
Loaf of Bread	do.	Sale of bread containing piece of metal	do.
Loaf of Bread	do.	Sale of bread containing piece of string	do.
Bottle of milk	do.	Sale of bottled milk in a dirty condition	do.
Bottle of milk	do.	Sale of milk in a dirty bottle	do.
Buns	do.	Sale of buns in a dirty condition	do.

INSPECTION OF DAIRIES AND MILK SAMPLING

Visits to dairies and numbers of samples taken increased considerably during the year. The number of satisfactory samples was also markedly increased and it will be of interest to note that all milk now sold in the City is either "Pasteurised" or "Tuberculin Tested", a far cry from twenty years ago when there were 48 dealers in the City and only 4 "Tuberculin Tested" and 2 "Pasteurised" licences were issued.

There are now only 6 dairies (3 of them having pasteurising plants) and 16 purveyors, supplying the City; 63 inspections were made and 205 samples were submitted for examination, the results being shown below. Five "Tuberculin Tested" and 15 "Tuberculin Tested" (Pasteurised) licences were issued.

Milk Samples

No. taken	Examination undertaken	Number Satisfactory	Percentage Satisfactory
67	Statutory test for "Pasteurised" milk.	65	97.01%
25	Statutory test for "Tuberculin Tested" milk.	19	76%
26	The presence of tubercle bacilli.	26	100%
61	Washed bottles submitted for cleanliness.	44	72.13%

BIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLES

The following table shows the results of samples submitted for the presence of tuberculosis during the past ten years:-

	Samples taken	Satisfactory	% Satisfactory
1946	44	42	95%
1947	29	29	100%
1948	66	64	96.9%
1949	58	55	94.8%
1950	58	55	94.8%
1951	41	41	100%
1952	72	71	98.6%
1953	43	43	100%
1954	17	17	100%
1955	26	26	100%

MEAT INSPECTION

The regular hours of slaughter at the abattoir are 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Mr. P. Bradwell is permanently employed there as Meat Inspector. Two of the District Inspectors work also for the greater part of the day in alternate weeks, and also work at week-ends when emergency slaughter is unavoidable.

The number of animals handled (29,562) was lower than in 1954 (41,782) and this was probably due to the unusually hot summer, the high price of meat and, by comparison, the exceptionally large numbers of animals sent in during 1954. Statistics, however, show a pleasing trend in the amount of tuberculosis found (page 29): 7.9% in 1,257 cows, compared with 13.9% in 1,625 cows for the previous year, and 1.8% in 12,554 pigs compared with 2.7% in 11,629 during 1954.

Whenever a number of animals from the same farm are found to be affected with tuberculosis the facts are reported to the Animal Health Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food with a view to the investigation of conditions at the farm, thereby helping to check the spread of the disease.

The following tables show:-

1. The number of animals killed and inspected and the number and weight of carcases and parts rejected - (Tables A and B);

2. The sites of infection in the case of tuberculosis - (Table C);

3. Diseases and conditions found, other than tuberculosis -

   Whole carcases - Table D;
   Part carcases and offal - Table E;

4. The incidence of Cysticercus Bovis - (Table F).

Carcases and offal are rejected when any one of 35 specified diseases or conditions are found; parts of carcases and either whole offals or parts are rejected when other conditions are present in localised areas only.

All condemned meat and offal is collected by a firm who process it into fertilizer with the exception of some joints which are fit for cat and dog food and are received under supervision at a local depot.

TABLE A

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	3,580	1,257	1,936	10,235	12,554	29,562
Number inspected	3,580	1,257	1,936	10,235	12,554	29,562
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	7	25	12	23	52	119
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,573	656	35	944	2,115	5,323
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	44.13	54.18	2.43	9.45	17.26	18.41
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	9	8	-	-	3	20
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	197	92	-	-	225	514
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.75	7.96	-	-	1.82	1.81

TABLE A (Contd)

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	37	9	-	-	-	46
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	37	9	-	-	-	46
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	Nil

For further details re. the above, see Table F (page 36)

TABLE B

NUMBER AND WEIGHT OF OFFALS AND WEIGHT OF CARCASE MEAT REJECTED

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	
Heads	222	11	24	286	
Tongues	229	10	22	298	
Lungs	338	29	269	1,706	
Hearts	74	12	78	505	
Livers	1,858	16	721	516	
Part Livers	474	3	7	16	
Mesenteries	227	17	32	123	
Intestines	182	17	32	128	
Stomachs	77	16	29	119	
Omenta	57	15	24	108	
Diaphragms	82	7	21	51	
Spleens	104	8	16	74	
Udders	51	1	9	12	
Tails	59	5	6	14	
Genital organs	23	1	3	5	
					Total Weight
Weight (lb) of offal	44,211	309	1,654	5,597	51,771
Weight of carcase meat (lb)	34,556	717	1,319	10,314	46,906
Total weight (lb)	78,767	1,026	2,973	15,911	98,677

44 Tons 1 cwt. 0 qrs. 0 st. 5 lb.

TABLE C

DISTRIBTUION OF TUBERCULOUS LESIONS

(All cases)

	Bovine				Pigs	
	Steers Bulls Heifers	Cows	Calves	% incidence	No.	% incidence
Lungs	98	62	-	52.3	20	8.9
Head	92	38	-	42.5	215	94.3
Intestines	74	41	-	37.6	12	5.3
Liver	29	15	-	14.4	20	8.9
Spleen	9	5	-	4.6	2	0.9
Kidney	3	2	-	1.6	1	0.4
Carcase glands	16	9	-	8.2	4	1.8
Serous membranes	9	3	-	3.9	-	-
Mammery glands	-	2	-	0.7	-	-
Bone	1	-	-	0.3	-	-

TABLE D

DISEASES AND CONDITIONS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

(WHOLE CARCASES UNFIT)

Disease	Cattle other than cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Bruising, extensive	3	3	1	-	-
Emaciation, pathological	-	3	1	8	1
Fever	-	5	3	-	3
Jaundice	-	-	1	-	1
Mastitis, acute septic	-	3	-	-	-
Oedema	2	5	2	3	7
Pericarditis, acute septic	-	1	-	-	-
Peritonitis, acute septic	-	-	-	1	2
Pleurisy, acute septic	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia, acute septic	-	1	-	2	2
Pyaemia	-	1	1	2	5
Septicaemia	-	-	1	2	-
Swine erysipelas	-	-	-	-	3
Tumours	-	1	-	1	-
Uraemia	1	-	2	2	2
Moribund carcases	-	1	-	1	7
Multiple abscesses	-	-	-	-	8
Bad bleeding	1	-	-	-	3
Rickets, with malnutrition	-	-	-	-	5
Leukaemia	-	-	-	-	1
Pigmentation	-	1	-	-	-
Toxaemia	-	-	-	1	1
Totals	7	25	12	23	52

TABLE E

DISEASES AND CONDITIONS OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

PARTS OR ORGANS UNFIT

		Cattle other than Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
PARASITIC INFESTATIONS	Cysticercus bovis	37	9	-	-	-
	Echinococcus granulosus	12	9	-	1	1
	Fascioliasis	1390	501	-	671	-
	Lung parasites	-	-	-	127	-
	Linguatula	9	7	-	-	-
	Multiceps multiceps	-	-	-	4	-
BACTERIAL DISEASES	Actinomycosis (including actinobacillosis)	17	9	-	-	-
	Atrophic Rhinitis	-	-	-	-	16
	Bacterial necrosis	1	2	-	-	-
	Johne's Disease	7	7	-	-	-
LOCAL INFLAMMATORY PROCESSES	Abscesses	185	61	5	23	49
	Arthritis	-	-	-	13	54
	Bruising	101	66	-	6	33
	Congestion	13	9	11	45	365
	Endocarditis	-	-	-	-	4
	Enteritis	4	3	2	5	13
	Fat necrosis	12	9	-	6	-
	Fatty change	8	18	2	-	1
	Fibrosis	4	1	-	3	3
	Fractures	3	8	3	6	16
	Cirrhosis	15	8	3	2	50
	Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	260
	Hydronephrosis	9	14	-	-	6
	Nephritis	14	19	-	-	-
	Mastitis	3	10	-	-	1
	Oedema	1	7	-	1	2
	Pleurisy, pericarditis and peritonitis	44	16	1	29	337
	Pneumonia	3	5	5	37	1012
	Pyometra	3	-	-	-	-
	Urticaria	-	-	-	-	16

(Contd)

TABLE E (Contd)

		Cattle other than Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
NEOPLASMS	Tumours (misc)	-	1	1	-	-
	Telangiectasis (Angioma)	16	53	-	-	-
	Haematoma	5	2	-	-	-
OTHER CONDITIONS	Bloodsplash	1	-	-	5	2
	Melanosis	2	1	1	-	4
	Manurial contamination	26	7	-	1	-
	Abnormal odour	-	-	-	-	1
	Laceration	-	-	-	-	2

TABLE F

INCIDENCE OF CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

Class of animal	Site of Infection					Total
	Head	Head & Heart	Heart	Thin Skirt & Heart	Thick Skirt	
Steers	18	-	8	-	1	27
Bulls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Heifers	9	-	1	-	-	10
Cows	7	1	-	1	-	9
Total	34	1	9	1	1	46

Percentage incidence of total number of cattle slaughtered 0.95

Cysticercus Bovis is a parasite found in beef which has become more common since the war and for which routine examination of all beef carcases is made. This parasite is communicable to man but destroyed by freezing at 20°F. for 21 days and all carcases affected are transferred to a cold store for this minimum period.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1 (a) FACTORIES

Premises		Number of		
	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 7 (i.e. cleanliness overcrowding, temperature, ventilation, drainage of floors and sanitary conveniences) are enforced by L.A. (non-power)	29	6	1	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 only (i.e. sanitary conveniences) is enforced by L.A. (power)	168	29	1	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 (sanitary conveniences) is enforced by the L.A. (i.e. building operations and works of engineering construction).	8	1	-	-
Total	205	36	2	-

ases in which defects were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
nt of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
vercrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
reasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
adequate ventilation (S.4)	-	1*	-	-	-
effective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
nitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	5*	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for soxes	-	-	-	-	-
her offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	6	-	1	-

* Includes arrears from 1954.

) Outworkers

ture of work	No. of outworkers in August List Required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
king c. wearing apparel	18	10	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

2. Workplaces

Type of Workplace	No. of Premises	Total No. of Inspections	Total No. of notices served	Total No. of Notices complied with
Offices	11	-	-	-
Nurserymen	1	-	-	-
Laundry receiving office	1	-	-	-
Beer and spirits store	1	17	1	1
Receiving shop, dry cleaners	1	-	-	-
Marine store dealer	1	-	-	-
Engraver	1	-	-	-
Wholesale potato store	1	-	-	-

THE PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

110 complaints of rats or mice were received and together with surveys undertaken on adjoining properties a total of 2,263 inspections (involving 2,171 visits and 1,012 treatments) of the following varied types of premises were made:- dwellings, business premises, Institutions, garden sheds and poultry runs, pig-sties, the sewage works and refuse tips, and a twice yearly treatment of the City's sewers.